

REMARKS

I. Amendments to the Specification

Amendments to the specification have been made to: i) correct typographical errors; and ii) Renumber drawings to reflect drawings changes that resulted separating Figure 5 into Figures 5a and 5b. Because amendments are reflected in several paragraphs, the applicant has elected to provide a substitute specification which is attached hereto in both Mark Up form and Clean Form. **No new matter has been added.**

II. OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS

The drawings have been objected to. The examiner has indicated that Figures 1 and 2 should include a legend such as --Prior Art--. Corrected Drawings are included herewith. Further, the application has elected to separate Figure 5 into two Figures designated Figure 5a and 5b for clarity. Appropriate amendments have been made to the specification.

III. The Claims

Claims 1-62 are pending in the application. Claims 27, 28, 37 and 37 have been allowed. Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 19, 20, 29, 30, 39, 40, 47, 48, 55 and 56 are rejected. Claims 3-10, 13-18, 21-26, 31-36, 41-46, 49-54, and 57-62 are objected to.

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 19, 20, 29, 30, 39, 40, 47, 48, 55 and 56 have been cancelled. Claims 3-10, 13, 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, 31, 33, 35, 41, 43, 45, 49, 51, 53, 57, 59, and 61 have been amended.

Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

A. OBJECTION TO CLAIMS FOR INFORMALITIES

Claims 11 and 39 are objected to for informalities. Claims 11 and 39 have been canceled.

B. REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 19, 20, 29, 30, 39, 40, 47, 48, 55 and 56 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(a) based on being anticipated by US Patent 6,101,189 to Tsuruoka.

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 19, 20, 29, 30, 39, 40, 47, 48, 55 and 56 have been cancelled.

C. OBJECTION TO CLAIMS – ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 3-10, 13-18, 21-26, 31-36, 41-46, 49-54, and 57-62 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if re-written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 3-10, 13, 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, 31, 33, 35, 41, 43, 45, 49, 51, 53, 57, 59, and 61 have been rewritten to independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 14, 16, 18, 22, 24, 26, 32, 34, 36, 42, 44, 46, 50, 52, 54, 58, 60, and 62 are original claims, but by nature of depending from one of amended claims 13, 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, 31, 33, 35, 41, 43, 45, 49, 51, 53, 57, 59, and 61 now include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

IV. CONCLUSION

Claims 3-10, 13-18, 21-26, 31-36, 41-46, 49-54, and 57-62 are believed to be allowable and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

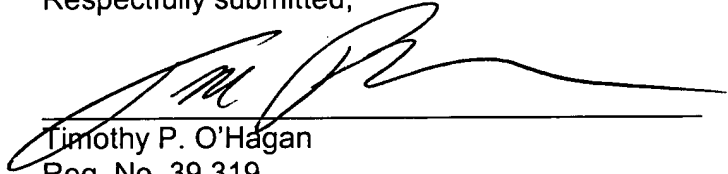
Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is

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invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number or email address provided below.

Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 501825.

Respectfully submitted,



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DATE: 2-8-05

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